

To: Basso, Ray[Basso.Ray@epa.gov]
From: Michael Barbara
Sent: Sat 3/23/2013 1:43:37 AM
Subject: FW: FW: Passaic River Polluters
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[March 21 - Response to Baykeeper.doc](#)

FYI. Here's what was sent to the Star Ledger. We provided the attached rebuttal.

Please keep this confidential between us, OK?

Michael A. Barbara, P.E.

mab.consulting LLC

Cell : 908.510.5703

Skype: mike.barbara52

*mab.consulting@verizon.net | www.mikebarbara.com

Notice: This e-mail transmission (and any attachments) may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. This message is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) to whom it is addressed -- if you have received this in error, please contact me as soon as possible.

From: Elizabeth Ruebman [<mailto:elizabeth@nynjbaykeeper.org>]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 1:52 PM
To: HUTCHINS, RYAN
Subject: Passaic River Polluters

In case you are interested:

The Cooperating Party Group (CPG) is comprised of the corporations legally responsible for the pollution in a 17 mile stretch of the Passaic River. They include corporations such as PSE&G, Tiffany & Co, BASF, and Sun Chemical to name a few. The CPG are also the group that sued the municipalities in the Passaic River sewer-shed, saying that sewers contributed to the pollution in the river because the sewers transported the pollution into the river.

The EPA spent years developing a comprehensive, peer-reviewed Focused Feasibility Study (FFS), which is a plan for cleaning up the Passaic River. The plan calls for immediate clean up of the most contaminated eight mile stretch of the river, for which the CPG—as the responsible parties—will pay. The remaining nine miles will be cleaned later.

The CPG is presenting a proposal to towns throughout Northern New Jersey on what they purport to be an alternative clean-up plan. It will come as no surprise that this plan is considerably cheaper and relies heavily on an unscientific claim that the river will clean much of the dioxin itself. (If this were the case, why would the river not have cleaned itself after 40 years of dioxin contamination?) The CPG's premise is that the several portions of the river should be cleaned at once—using their scientifically bogus remediation methods—and not start until 2015.

What's the allure? While presenting their plan, CPG provides an application for money from a "green fund."

Senator Sarlo and Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise wrote a letter criticizing the EPA's FFS without being briefed by the EPA. The Townships of Garfield and Wallington also passed resolutions endorsing the CPG's alternative "solution," again, without being briefed on the EPA's FFS.

We know that Hudson County received money for an open space plan from the CPGS. I'm not sure if the other towns have received money yet or have just submitted their applications. Basically these electeds are endorsing known-polluters in exchange for money.

Elizabeth E. Ruebman

NY/NJ Baykeeper

52 W. Front Street

Keyport, NJ 07735

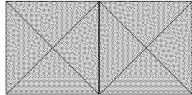
732.888.9870 ext. 108

917-628-1330 cell

732.888.9873 fax

Website: www.nynjbaykeeper.org

Follow us at:



Protecting, preserving, and restoring the Hudson-Raritan Estuary since 1989.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, purge it and do not disseminate or copy it.

--

Jaffe Communications Inc.

45 Academy Street, Suite 501

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-315-0300

Fax: 908-292-1177

Web: jaffecom.com

Twitter: twitter.com/jaffecom

Wire: <http://jaffecom.com/wire/>

FB: facebook.com/jaffecomm